

Amendments to the Drawings:

Transmitted herewith is a full set of formal drawings (15 sheets) as amended herein.

The attached annotated sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1, 5 and 12B. These sheets, which includes FIGS. 1, 5 and 12A-12B, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 1, 5 and 12B.

Specifically, FIG. 1 has been revised to change reference numeral "116" (the occurrence appearing at the bottom right-hand portion of the figure) to --117-- to eliminate redundancy with previously used reference numerals; FIG. 5 has been revised to insert reference numeral --228-- with appropriate lead line arrow; and FIG. 12B has been revised to insert reference numeral --604-- with appropriate lead line. No new matter has been added.

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

Applicants herein acknowledge the restriction requirement in the above-referenced application. Claims 1 through 60 are currently pending in the application. The Office has identified the following groups of claims as being drawn to separate inventions:

Group I – Claims 1 through 35, drawn to a method of forming an elongated composite member, classified in class 264, subclass 258.

Group II – Claims 36 through 60, drawn to an apparatus for [forming] elongated members, classified in class 425, (no subclass identified).

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II, claims 36 through 60, without traverse.

Please Note Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the Office on August 1, 2003, and respectfully request that the documents or other information referenced therein be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08 form be returned to the undersigned attorney evidencing same with the first Office Action on the merits.

Should any of the documents, or portions thereof, be unavailable to the Examiner for any reason, please contact the undersigned attorney, who will supply same immediately by facsimile or other suitable method of delivery.

Please Note Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements filed with the Office on September 23, 2004 and February 16, 2005, and respectfully request that the documents or other information referenced therein be made of record

in the present application and that initialed copies of the PTO/SB/08 forms be returned to the undersigned attorney evidencing same with the first Office Action on the merits.

Should any of the documents, or portions thereof, be unavailable to the Examiner for any reason, please contact the undersigned attorney, who will supply same immediately by facsimile or other suitable method of delivery.

CONCLUSION

An early Office Action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bradley B. Jensen', followed by a horizontal line.

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BBJ/dn:slm:csu

Enclosures: Appendix A (clean version of the substitute specification)
Appendix B (marked-up version of the substitute specification)
Appendix C (full set of formal drawings -- 15 sheets and 3 sheets of annotated drawings showing the changes made)



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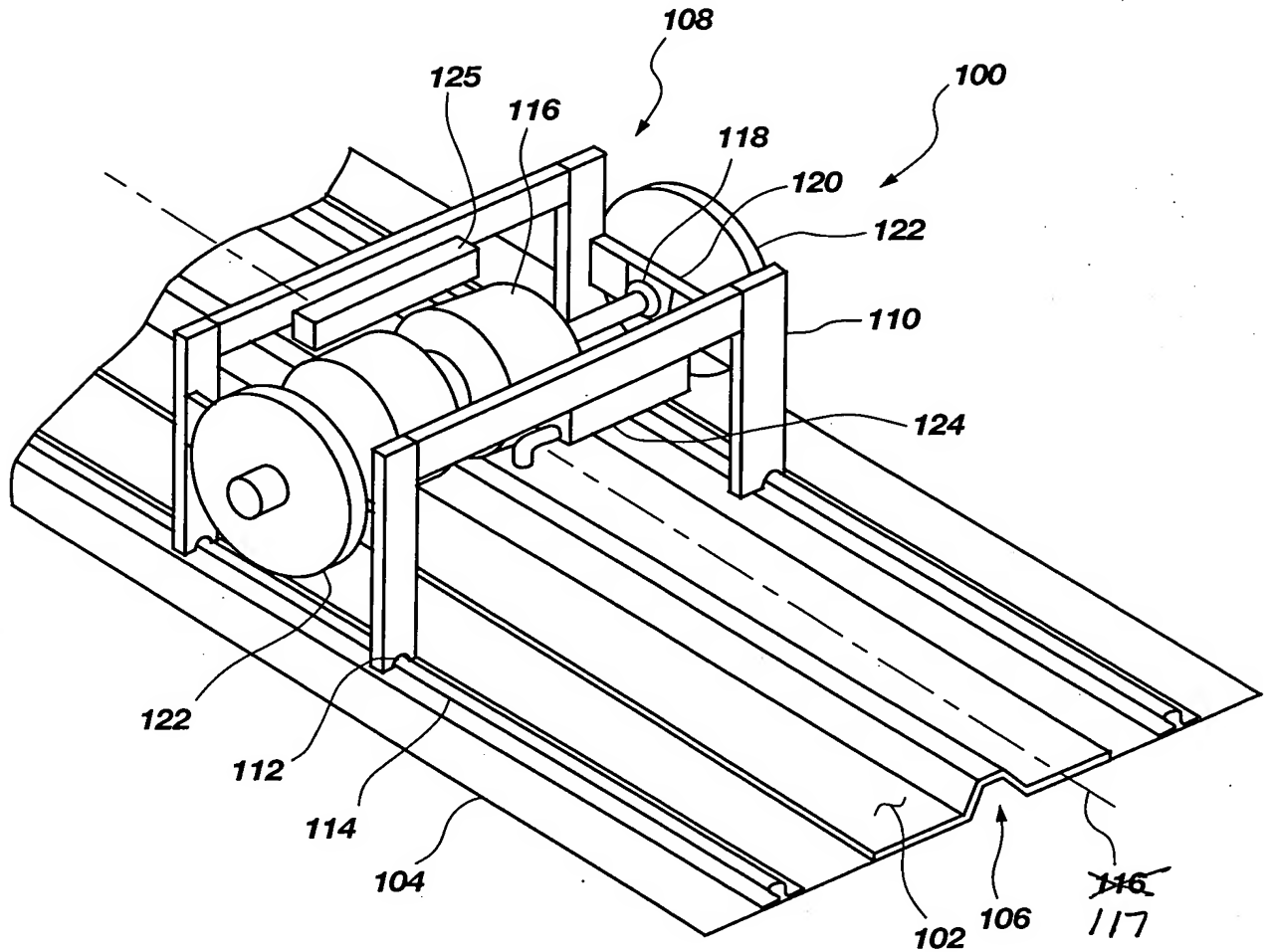
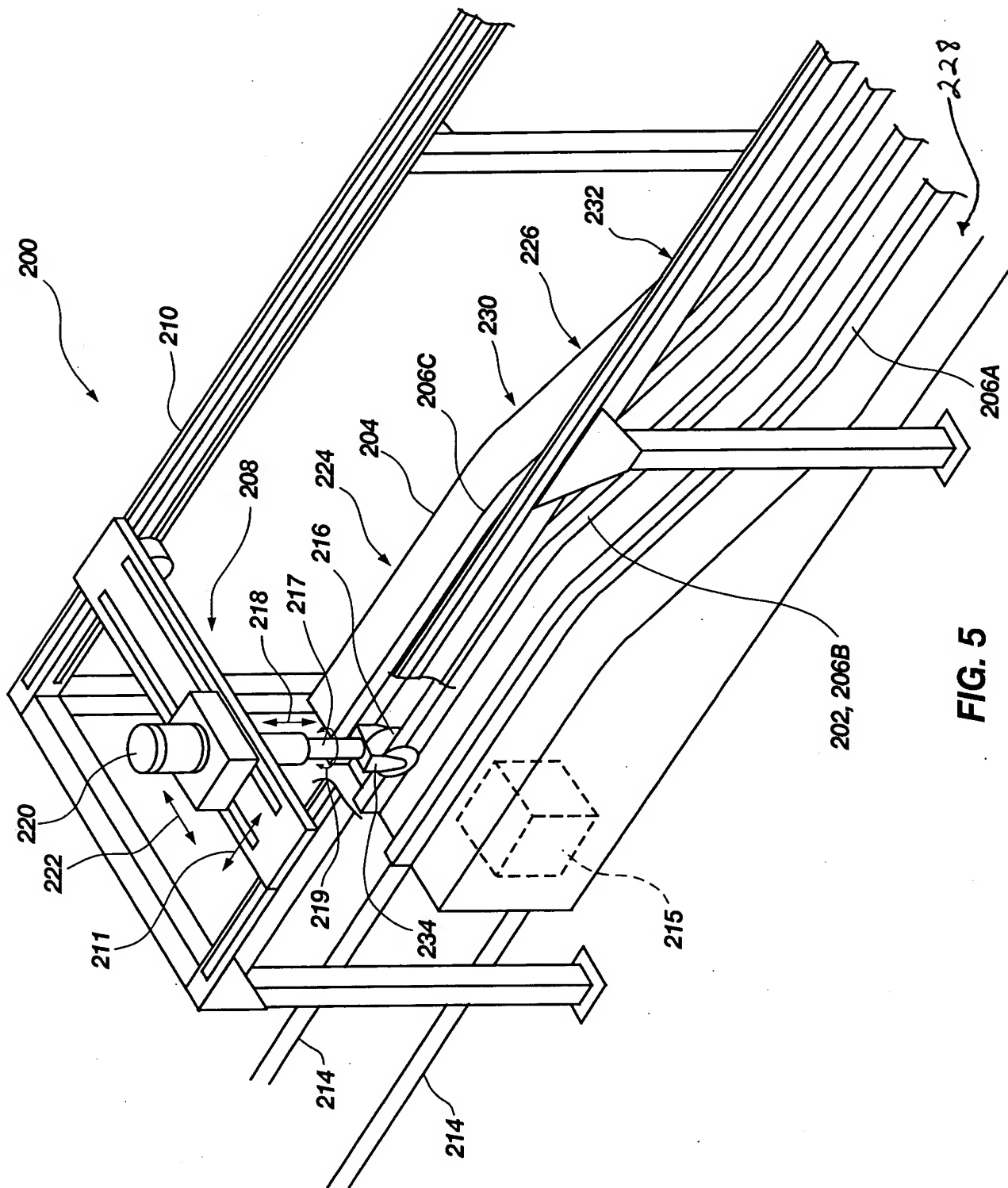


FIG. 1



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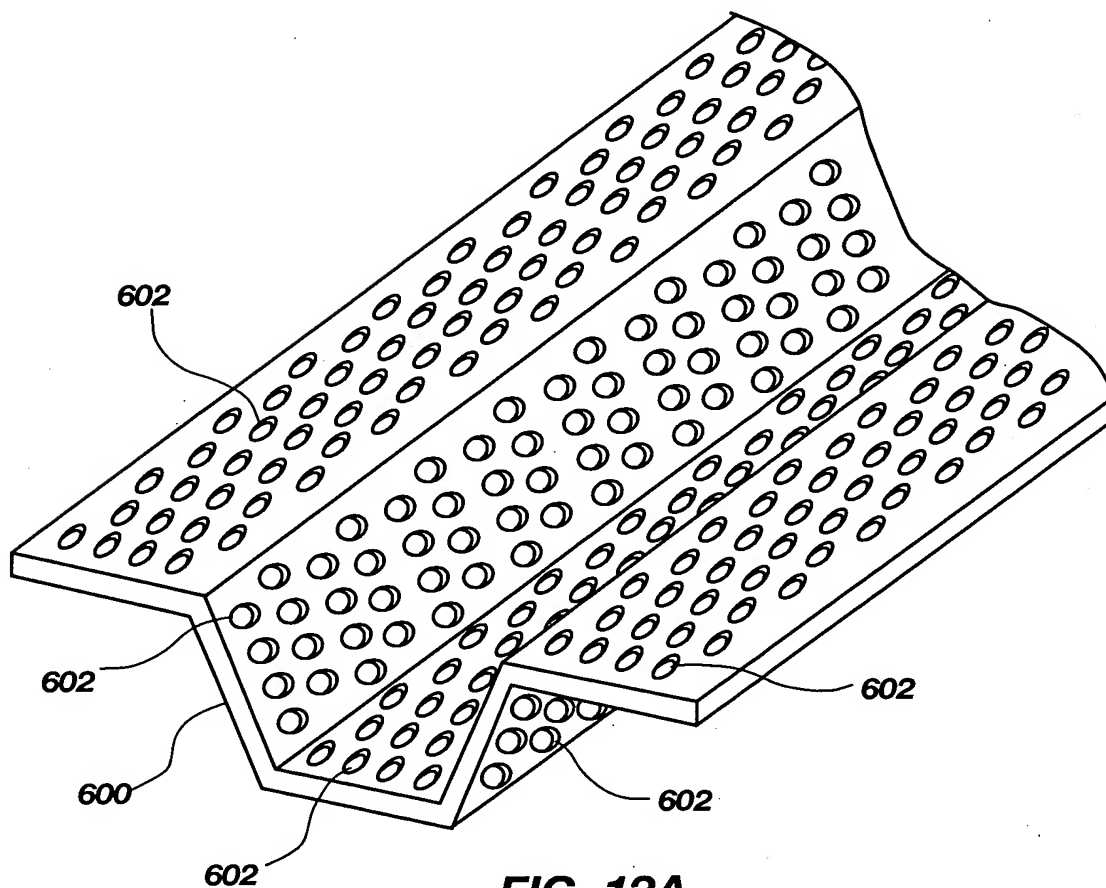


FIG. 12A

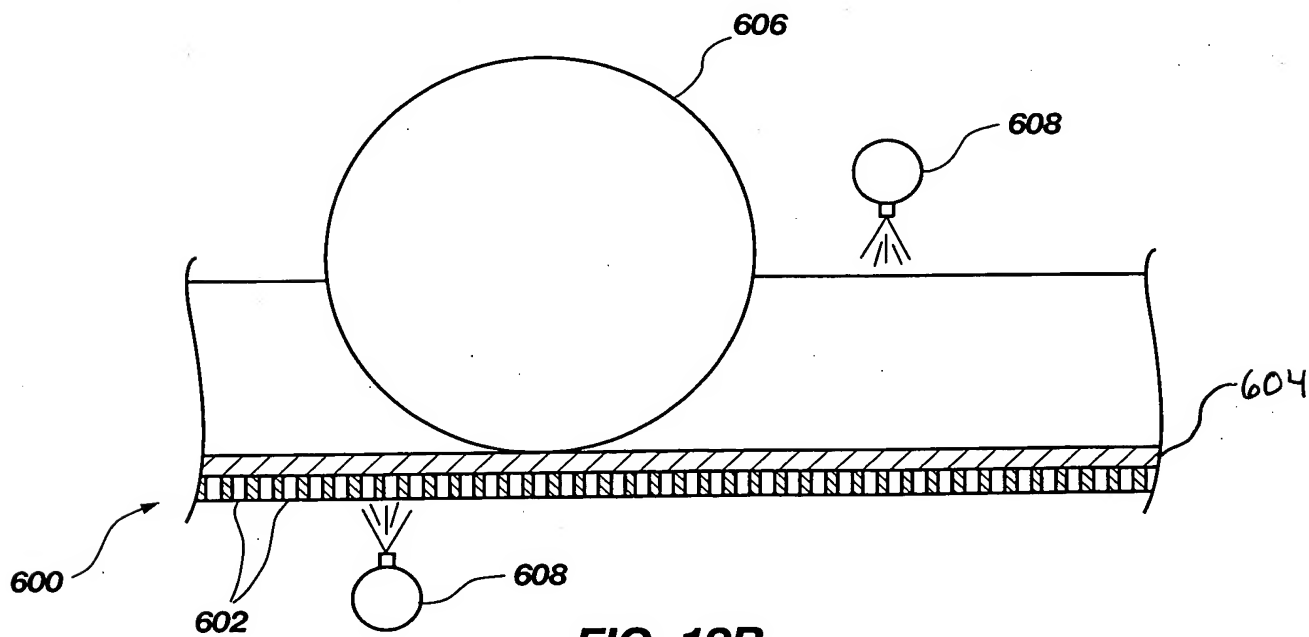


FIG. 12B